

**REMARKS**

In the Final Official Action, the Examiner rejected claims 2 and 16 and allowed claims 1, 3, 5-15, 17 and 19-22. Specifically, the Examiner rejected claims 2 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. §101 as claiming the same invention as claims 8 and 18 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,684,177 to Mishra et al. ("the '177 patent"), which is the parent of the present application. While the Applicant does not concede the correctness of the Examiner's rejection, the Applicant has chosen to place the application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, claims 2 and 16 have been cancelled. As such, the Applicant earnestly solicits an indication of allowability of claims 1, 3, 5-15, 17 and 19-22.

If the Examiner believes that a telephonic interview will help speed this application toward issuance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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